

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJ: DISCUSSION OF FOUR MARRIAGE CASES AT MFA

1. CONSOFFS CALLED ON MFA USA DIVISION COUNSELOR BUBNOV AUG. 14 TO HAND OVER NOTE DETAILING DIFFICULTIES AND DELAYS RECENTLY ENCOUNTERED BY AMCITS WHO MARRIED SOVIETS AND ARE SPONSORING THEIR EMIGRATION. IN NOTE AND ORAL PRESENTATION CONSOFFS FOCUSED ON FOUR CASES:

A. GHARIBIAN: RAZMIK GHARIBIAN APPLIED IN YEREVAN FOR EXIT PERMISSION TO JOIN WIFE HELEN NEE SIMONIAN FEB. 15, 1973, BUT HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSE TO DATE (MOSCOW 8257);

B. FELSTEIN: VALENTINA FELDSTEIN NEE KUZNETSOVA APPLIED AT MOSCOW OVIR FEB. 16, 1973, TO JOIN HUSBAND RONALD AND HAS NOT YET RECEIVED REPLY (MOSCOW 8959).

C. FLOYD: VERA FLOYD NEE ANTONOVA TRIED RECENTLY TO APPLY AT MOSCOW OVIR FOR EXIT PERMISSION BUT APPLICATION WAS NOT ACCEPTED (MOSCOW 9508). CONSOFFS REQUESTED THAT MFA ARRANGE FOR MOSCOW OVIR TO ACCEPT HER DOCUMENTS.

D. KRAWCHUK: AMCIT LUCY KRAWCHUK WAS INTERROGRATED BY POLICE WHEN SHE ARRIVED IN MOSCOW TO MARRY SOVIET OPERA

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SINGER, WHO HAS BEEN ARRESTED ON "SUSPICION OF MURDER" (MOSCOW

9537).

2. IN RESPONSE, BUBNOV SAID HE WAS AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN KRAWCHUK CASE AND HOPED TO HAVE REPLY "SOON." HE TOOK NOTE OF CONSOFF'S DESCRIPTION OF CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING FRUSTRATION OF MARRIAGE AS "STRANGE" BUT OFFERED NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT. WITH RESPECT TO THREE OTHER CASES, BUBNOV SEEMED WILLING TO CONCEDE DELAYS AND DIFFICULTIES WERE UNFORTUNATE BUT OFFERED LITTLE IN WAY OF SPECIFIC MFA ASSISTANCE TO RESOLVE CASES.

3. CONSOFFS ALSO EMPHASIZED, BOTH TO BUBNOV AND SEPARATELY TO USA DIVISION THIRD SECRETARY BONDIN (WHO SAT IN), EMBASSY CONCERN OVER FACT THAT MRS. FLOYD WAS INTERROGATED FOR 45 MINUTES BY "MILITIAMEN" POSTED OUTSIDE EMBASSY BEFORE BEING ADMITTED TO CONSULAR SECTION. CONSOFFS EXPRESSED VIEW IN THIS REGARD THAT ATMOSPHERE CREATED IN INTIMIDATING YOUNG SOVIET CITIZEN MARRIED TO AMCIT IS STRIKINGLY INCONSISTENT WITH IMPROVED US-SOVIET RELATIONS.

4. IN MEETING ON SAME DATE, CONSOFF HANDED OVER TWO COPIES OF NOTE ON MARRIAGE CASES AND MADE SIMILAR APPEAL FOR MORE EXPEDITIOUS PROCESSING TO MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION DEPUTY DIRECTOR REZNICHENKO. CONSOFF ALSO TRANSMITTED TO REZNICHENKO "NON-PAPER" ADDING NAMES OF ELEANOR IECHEPENE AND NICHOLAS BENKO TO THOSE OF FIVE OTHER AMCITS ON REP. LIST XV, WHOSE NAMES WERE SUBMITTED BY CHARGE TO FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETSOV MAY 16 (MOSCOW 9373 AND PREVIOUS).

5. DEPT. MAY WISH ON APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO MAKE SEPARATE APPROACH TO SOVIET EMBASSY ON QUESTION OF OBSTACLES BEING PLACED IN PATH OF REUNIFICATION OF NEWLY-MARRIED US-SOVIET COUPLES. COPY OF NOTE BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV.
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